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School of Public Health
Center for Public Health
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**Mass Casualty
Incident Management**

**James Soto
Associate Director, BEMS
NYSDOH**

Objective of MCI Training:

To maximize survivors of a multiple casualty incident (MCI)

Why Public Health Staff Need to Know About Mass Casualty Incidents

- Local response protocols differ
- Multiple casualty may not just be trauma related
- Role of PH in MCI not widely known or tested
- PH staff may be part of response
- PH may need to partner with EMS during an MCI

Definition

An MCI occurs when there aren't enough providers & equipment for the number of patients.

Basically, more victims than rescuers.

Mass Casualties Aren't Routine

EMS providers are taught to apply their skills to treat one patient at a time

Difficult Choices

An MCI forces the EMS providers to make choices regarding who would benefit most from their treatment or limited resources

EMT Triage Guidance Exists

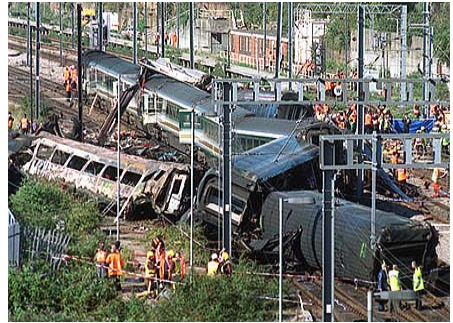
Use of START (Simple Triage and Rapid Treatment) as a sorting protocol

Managing Incidents with Multiple Casualties

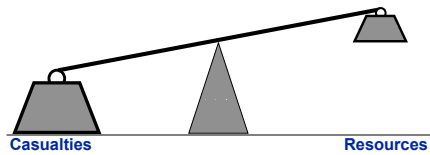
Objectives:

- Understanding the multiple casualty scene
- Triage
- Scene Management

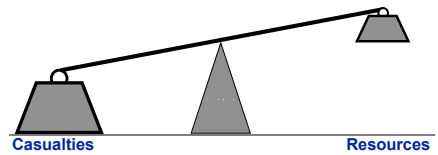
The MCI Scene



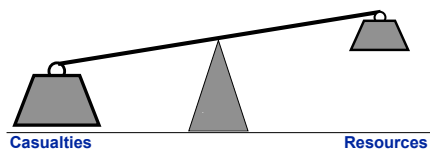
The Initial Problem



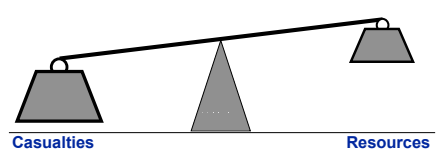
The Objective



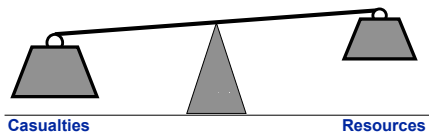
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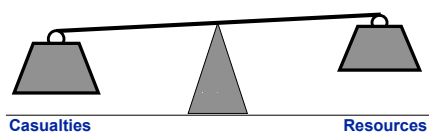
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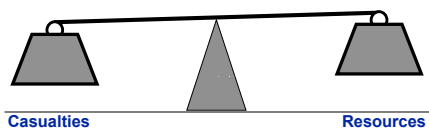
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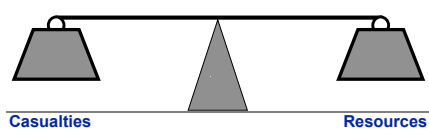
The Objective



The Objective



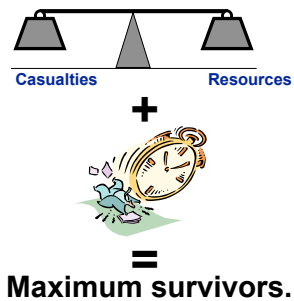
The Objective



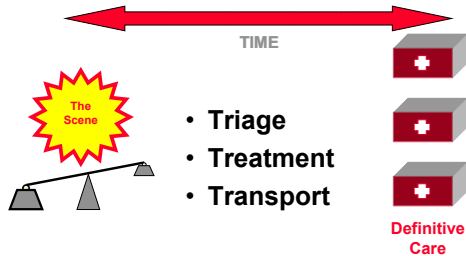
Time Is Important

The Golden Hour

“The critical trauma patient has only 60 minutes from the time of injury to reach definitive surgical care, or the odds of a successful recovery diminish dramatically”.



Getting the Right Patient to the Right Facility



Managing Incidents With Multiple Casualties

Objectives:

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Triage

"Large scale triage is the hardest job anyone in pre-hospital care will ever do".

*A.J Heightman, Mass Casualty Incident Management.
A practical approach to solving complex operational dilemmas.*

Triage

WHY ?

To get the right patient in the right place at the right time.

Triage

WHEN ?

Casualties exceed the number of skilled rescuers.

Triage

HOW ?

By a system which is:

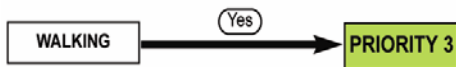
- ***Dynamic***
- ***Quick***
- ***Clinically Safe***
- ***Reproducible***

Triage Coding

Priority	Treatment	Color
Immediate	1	Red
Urgent	2	Yellow
Delayed	3	Green
Dead		Black

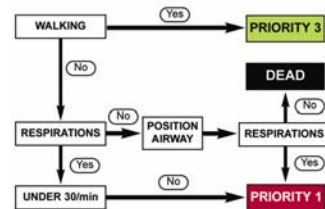


Primary Triage



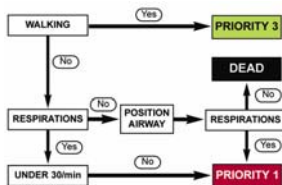
The first attempt at balancing EMS resources and casualties / injured

Primary Triage



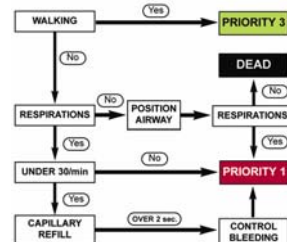
Determining whether there is an airway and breathing

Primary Triage



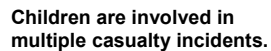
If breathing, at what rate & is it good enough?

Primary Triage



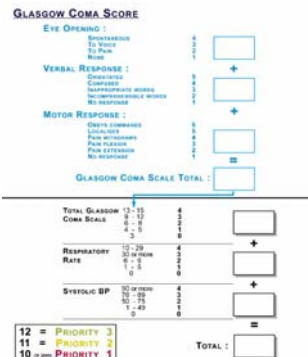
They have an airway, are breathing. Are they circulating blood sufficiently?

If you are unable to obtain a capillary refill, check the radial pulse. If absent, then control any bleeding and prioritize the patient PRIORITY 1.



The over prioritizing of children can take valuable resources away from more seriously injured adults.

Triage systems based on adult physiology will not provide accurate triage.



Secondary Triage

- Generally used when there is an extended duration event
- After initial Color coding triage
- Healthcare professionals who respond to the scene or PH response teams may be utilized to further determine who gets transported from scene first

Patient Accountability



Patient Accountability

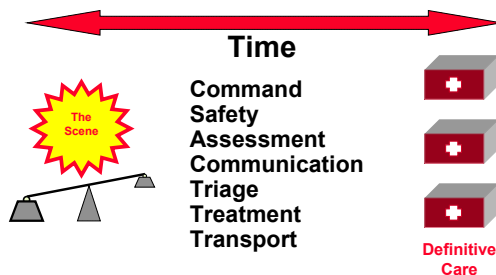
- Use a system to track the patient condition
- Use a system to determine the priority for further treatment
- Use a system to determine transport to an appropriate hospital
- Use a system that tracks the patient throughout the transport process

Managing Incidents with Multiple Casualties

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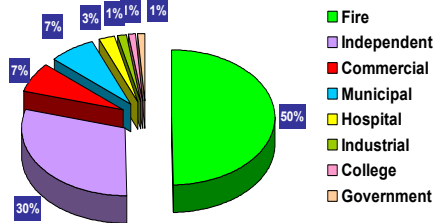
Your Scene Management



EMS Agencies in NYS

- **Approximately 1100 EMS ambulance services**
 - 50% are operated by Fire Departments
 - 30% are operated by independent organizations
 - 7% operated by Commercial services
 - 7% operated by Municipalities
 - 3% operated by Hospitals
 - 3% operated by Industrial, College, Government
- **60,255 Certified EMS personnel**
- **Certification and training are big tasks**

Who Owns the Ambulance Services



EMS Agencies in NYS

- DOH, Bureau of EMS received a Governor's WMD Grant to provide equipment that will help organize and conduct triage at MCI's
- County level training is being done with EMS Agency Training Officers

Training Materials



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